

Supporting Information for “Relativistic effects in Photon-Induced Near Field Electron Microscopy”

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I. DIRAC EQUATION

The Dirac equation for an electron in an electromagnetic wave is given by

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial t} = \left\{ c\boldsymbol{\alpha} \cdot (\vec{p} - q\vec{A}) + q\phi + \beta mc^2 \right\} \Psi \quad (\text{S.1})$$

where $q = -e$ is the electron charge, \vec{A} is the vector potential, and ϕ is the scalar potential. $\boldsymbol{\alpha}$ and β are unit constant matrices chosen to satisfy the relativistic energy-momentum relation. For a one dimensional equation, along the z -direction, $\boldsymbol{\alpha}$, β , and Ψ are given by two components. as

$$\boldsymbol{\alpha} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{S.2})$$

$$\beta = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{S.3})$$

$$\Psi = \begin{pmatrix} \psi_1 \\ \psi_2 \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{S.4})$$

and eqn. (S.1) becomes

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \begin{pmatrix} \psi_1 \\ \psi_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} q\phi + mc^2 & c(\hat{p}_z - qA_z) \\ c(\hat{p}_z - qA_z) & q\phi - mc^2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \psi_1 \\ \psi_2 \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{S.5})$$

II. FOURIER TRANSFORM OF GAUSSIAN FUNCTION

Fourier transformation for differentiation shows the following property:

$$\mathcal{F}^{-1} \left\{ i^n k^n \hat{F}(k) \right\} = \left(\frac{d}{dz} \right)^n \mathcal{F} \left\{ \hat{F}(k) \right\} \quad (\text{S.6})$$

The Gaussian profiles in momentum and position spaces are defined as,

$$\hat{G}(k; \sigma_k) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma_k} \exp \left[-\frac{k^2}{2\sigma_k^2} \right] \quad (\text{S.7})$$

$$G(z; \sigma_z) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma_z} \exp \left[-\frac{z^2}{2\sigma_z^2} \right] \quad (\text{S.8})$$

then with $\sigma_z = \frac{1}{2\sigma_k}$, they satisfy

$$\mathcal{F}^{-1} \left\{ \sqrt{\hat{G}(k - k_0; \sigma_k)} \right\} = \sqrt{G(z; \sigma_z)} e^{ik_0 z} \quad (\text{S.9})$$

$$\mathcal{F}^{-1} \left\{ i(k - k_0) \sqrt{\hat{G}(k - k_0; \sigma_k)} \right\} = \frac{d\sqrt{G(z; \sigma_z)}}{dz} e^{ik_0 z} \quad (\text{S.10})$$

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III. RELATIVISTIC PINEM SOLUTION

As in the non-relativistic case, the vector potential of the scattered wave by linearly polarized incident wave is given by

$$A_z = \frac{1}{2} (\tilde{A}_z + \tilde{A}_z^\dagger) = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\tilde{E}_z}{i\omega_p} - \frac{\tilde{E}_z^\dagger}{i\omega_p} \right) = \frac{1}{\omega_p} \text{Im} [\tilde{E}_z] \quad (\text{S.11})$$

The temporal dependence of the scattered electric field can be separated as $\tilde{E}(z, t) = \tilde{E}(z, 0) \exp[-i\omega_p t]$ for a continuous wave. For an incident optical pulse of duration much longer than the electron transit time, the scattered wave in the vicinity of the nanostructure can be approximated as

$$\tilde{E}(z, t) \approx \tilde{E}(z, 0) \exp[-i\omega_p t] \exp\left[-\frac{(t - \tau)^2}{4\sigma_p^2}\right] \quad (\text{S.12})$$

Then, we obtain

$$\frac{g^+(z', t)}{g^+(z', t_0)} = \exp\left[+i \frac{qv_0}{\hbar\omega_p} \int_{t_0}^t dt' \text{Im} \left\{ \tilde{E}_z(z' + v_0 t', 0) \exp[-i\omega_p t'] \exp\left[-\frac{(t' - \tau)^2}{4\sigma_p^2}\right] \right\}\right] \quad (\text{S.13})$$

By substituting $z'' = z' + v_0 t'$ in the integration and using the fact that $\tilde{E}(z'', 0)$ is only significant around $z'' = 0$, we derive

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{g^+(z', t)}{g^+(z', t_0)} &= \exp\left[+i \frac{q}{\hbar\omega_p} \int_{z'+v_0 t_0}^{z'+v_0 t} dz'' \text{Im} \left\{ \tilde{E}_z(z'', 0) \exp\left[-i\omega_p \frac{z'' - z'}{v_0}\right] \exp\left[-\frac{(z'' - z' - v_0 \tau)^2}{4v_0^2 \sigma_p^2}\right] \right\}\right] \\ &\approx \exp\left[+i \frac{q}{\hbar\omega_p} \text{Im} \left\{ \exp\left[i \frac{\omega_p}{v_0} z'\right] \int_{z'+v_0 t_0}^{z'+v_0 t} dz'' \tilde{E}_z(z'', 0) \exp\left[-i \frac{\omega_p}{v_0} z''\right] \exp\left[-\frac{(-z' - v_0 \tau)^2}{4v_0^2 \sigma_p^2}\right] \right\}\right] \end{aligned}$$

By substituting $t = +\infty$ and $t_0 = -\infty$, the final state can be expressed as

$$\frac{g^+(z', +\infty)}{g^+(z', -\infty)} = \exp\left[+i \frac{q}{\hbar\omega_p} \text{Im} \left\{ \exp\left[i \frac{\omega_p}{v_0} z'\right] \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dz'' \tilde{E}_z(z'', 0) \exp\left[-i \frac{\omega_p}{v_0} z''\right] \right\} \exp\left[-\frac{(z' + v_0 \tau)^2}{4v_0^2 \sigma_p^2}\right]\right] \quad (\text{S.14})$$

Using the definition of $\tilde{F} = \tilde{F}\left(\frac{\omega_p}{v_0}\right) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dz'' \tilde{E}_z(z'', 0) \exp\left[-i \left(\frac{\omega_p}{v_0}\right) z''\right]$, eqn. (S.14) becomes

$$\frac{g^+(z', +\infty)}{g^+(z', -\infty)} = \exp\left[+i \frac{q}{\hbar\omega_p} \text{Im} \left\{ \exp\left[i \frac{\omega_p}{v_0} z'\right] \tilde{F} \right\} \exp\left[-\frac{(z' + v_0 \tau)^2}{4v_0^2 \sigma_p^2}\right]\right] \quad (\text{S.15})$$

The electron part in eqn. (S.15) is identical to eqn. (A12) in the previous publication [1], and no relativistic correction is required when the relativistic velocity is used for both formulations, (and corresponding k_c and ω_c for the classical formulation). Similarly, we Taylor-expand the exponential functions in eqn. (S.15), re-substitute Im function by subtraction of its complex conjugate, and rearrange it using the definition of a Bessel function (Jacobi-Anger relation) to obtain

$$\frac{g^+(z', +\infty)}{g^+(z', -\infty)} = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{+\infty} \exp\left[in \frac{\omega_p}{v_0} z'\right] \left(\frac{-\tilde{F}}{|\tilde{F}|}\right)^n J_n\left(\frac{-q}{\hbar\omega_p} |\tilde{F}| \exp\left[-\frac{(z' + v_0 \tau)^2}{4v_0^2 \sigma_p^2}\right]\right) \quad (\text{S.16})$$

IV. FINAL DIRAC WAVEFUNCTION

We define the spinor vector as

$$\hat{\mathbf{u}}_{(k)}^+ = \begin{pmatrix} u_1^+(k) \\ u_2^+(k) \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{S.17})$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{u}}_{(k)}^- = \begin{pmatrix} u_1^-(k) \\ u_2^-(k) \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{S.18})$$

and define $\xi_n(z') = \left(-\frac{\tilde{F}}{|\tilde{F}|}\right)^n J_n\left(\frac{-q}{\hbar\omega_p}|\tilde{F}|\exp\left[-\frac{(z'+v_0\tau)^2}{4v_0^2\sigma_p^2}\right]\right)$ and $g_n^+(z') = g^+(z', -\infty)\xi_n(z')$, such that

$$g^+(z', +\infty) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{+\infty} \exp\left[in\frac{\omega_p}{v_0}z'\right] g_n^+(z') \quad (\text{S.19})$$

The final state wavefunction is retrieved by substituting $f^+(z, t) = g^+(z - v_0t, t)$ and $f^-(z, t) \approx \frac{1}{-2i\omega_0} \frac{c}{\gamma_0} \left(-\frac{\partial f^+(z, t)}{\partial z}\right) \exp[-i(\omega_0^+ - \omega_0^-)t]$ in eqn. (17) of the *main text* at $t \rightarrow +\infty$, where $\hbar\omega_0 = \gamma_0 mc^2$, such that

$$\Psi(z, t) = \left\{ g^+(z', +\infty) \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{(k_0)}^+ - \frac{i\hbar}{2\gamma_0^2 mc} \frac{\partial g^+(z', +\infty)}{\partial z} \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{(k_0)}^- \right\} \exp[i(k_0 z - \omega_0^+ t)] \quad (\text{S.20})$$

which becomes

$$\Psi(z, t) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{+\infty} \left\{ \exp\left[in\frac{\omega_p}{v_0}z'\right] g_n^+(z') \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{(k_0)}^+ - \frac{i\hbar}{2\gamma_0^2 mc} \frac{\partial \left(\exp\left[in\frac{\omega_p}{v_0}z'\right] g_n^+(z')\right)}{\partial z} \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{(k_0)}^- \right\} \exp[i(k_0 z - \omega_0^+ t)] \quad (\text{S.21})$$

where the differential term becomes

$$\frac{\partial \left(\exp\left[in\frac{\omega_p}{v_0}z'\right] g_n^+(z')\right)}{\partial z} = in\frac{\omega_p}{v_0} \exp\left[in\frac{\omega_p}{v_0}z'\right] g_n^+(z') + \exp\left[in\frac{\omega_p}{v_0}z'\right] \frac{\partial}{\partial z} g_n^+(z') \quad (\text{S.22})$$

Eqn. (S.21) becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \Psi(z, t) &= \sum_{n=-\infty}^{+\infty} \left\{ g_n^+(z') \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{(k_0)}^+ + g_n^+(z') \left(n\frac{\omega_p}{v_0}\right) \frac{\hbar}{2\gamma_0^2 mc} \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{(k_0)}^- - \frac{\partial g_n^+(z')}{\partial z} \frac{i\hbar}{2\gamma_0^2 mc} \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{(k_0)}^- \right\} \exp\left[in\frac{\omega_p}{v_0}z'\right] \exp[i(k_0 z - \omega_0^+ t)] \\ &= \sum_{n=-\infty}^{+\infty} \left\{ g_n^+(z') \left(\hat{\mathbf{u}}_{(k_0)}^+ + n\frac{\omega_p}{v_0} \frac{\hbar}{2\gamma_0^2 mc} \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{(k_0)}^-\right) - \frac{\partial g_n^+(z')}{\partial z} \frac{i\hbar}{2\gamma_0^2 mc} \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{(k_0)}^- \right\} \exp\left[in\frac{\omega_p}{v_0}z'\right] \exp[i(k_0 z - \omega_0^+ t)] \\ &= \sum_{n=-\infty}^{+\infty} \left\{ g_n^+(z') \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{(k_n)}^+ - \frac{\partial g_n^+(z')}{\partial z} \frac{i\hbar}{2\gamma_0^2 mc} \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{(k_0)}^- \right\} \exp\left[in\frac{\omega_p}{v_0}(z - v_0t)\right] \exp[i(k_0 z - \omega_0^+ t)] \\ &= \sum_{n=-\infty}^{+\infty} \left\{ g_n^+(z') \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{(k_n)}^+ - \frac{\partial g_n^+(z')}{\partial z} \frac{i\hbar}{2\gamma_0^2 mc} \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{(k_0)}^- \right\} \exp[i(k_n z - \omega_n^+ t)] \\ &\approx \sum_{n=-\infty}^{+\infty} \left\{ g_n^+(z') \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{(k_n)}^+ - \frac{\partial g_n^+(z')}{\partial z} \frac{i\hbar}{2\gamma_0^2 mc} \left(\hat{\mathbf{u}}_{(k_0)}^- - n\frac{\omega_p}{v_0} \frac{\hbar}{2\gamma_0^2 mc} \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{(k_0)}^+\right) \right\} \exp[i(k_n z - \omega_n^+ t)] \\ &= \sum_{n=-\infty}^{+\infty} \left\{ g_n^+(z') \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{(k_n)}^+ - \frac{\partial g_n^+(z')}{\partial z} \frac{i\hbar}{2\gamma_0^2 mc} \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{(k_n)}^- \right\} \exp[i(k_n z - \omega_n^+ t)] \\ &= \sum_{n=-\infty}^{+\infty} \left\{ g_n^+(z') \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{(k_n)}^+ - i \frac{\partial g_n^+(z')}{\partial z} \frac{\partial \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{(k)}^+}{\partial k} \bigg|_{k=k_n} \right\} \exp[i(k_n z - \omega_n^+ t)] \end{aligned} \quad (\text{S.23})$$

where $k_n = k_0 + n\frac{\omega_p}{v_0}$, and $\omega_n = \omega_0 + n\omega_p$. An approximation of $\hat{\mathbf{u}}_{(k_n)}^- \approx \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{(k_0)}^-$ was used in the small range of k limit.

In the momentum space, the wavefunction becomes

$$\Psi(k) \approx \sum_{n=-\infty}^{+\infty} \mathcal{F} \left\{ g_n^+(z - v_0t) \exp[i(k_n z - \omega_n^+ t)] \left\{ \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{(k_0)}^+ + (k - k_0) \frac{\partial \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{(k)}^+}{\partial k} \bigg|_{k=k_n} \right\}; k \right\} \quad (\text{S.24})$$

$$\approx \sum_{n=-\infty}^{+\infty} \mathcal{F} \{ g_n^+(z - v_0t) \exp[i(k_n z - \omega_n^+ t)]; k \} \begin{pmatrix} u_1^+(k) \\ u_2^+(k) \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{S.25})$$

$$= \sum_{n=-\infty}^{+\infty} \mathcal{F} \{ g_n^+(z'); k - k_n \} \begin{pmatrix} u_1^+(k) \\ u_2^+(k) \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{S.26})$$

The probability of each wavelet becomes

$$P_n = \int_{k_n - \frac{1}{2} \frac{\omega_p}{v_0}}^{k_n + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\omega_p}{v_0}} dk \left| \sum_{n=-\infty}^{+\infty} \mathcal{F} \{g_n^+; k - k_n\} \right|^2 \quad (\text{S.27})$$

$$\approx \int_{k_n - \frac{1}{2} \frac{\omega_p}{v_0}}^{k_n + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\omega_p}{v_0}} dk |\mathcal{F} \{g_n^+; k - k_n\}|^2 \quad (\text{S.28})$$

$$\approx \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dk |\mathcal{F} \{g_n^+; k - k_n\}|^2 \quad (\text{S.29})$$

when each wavelet does not overlap with the other, as $\mathcal{F} \{g_n^+; k - k_n\} \mathcal{F} \{g_m^+; k - k_m\} \approx 0$. Eqn. (S.29) is equivalent to the classical counterpart:

$$\Psi(k) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{+\infty} \mathcal{F} \{g_n; k - k_n\} \quad (\text{S.30})$$

$$P_n \approx \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dk |\mathcal{F} \{g_n; k - k_n\}|^2 = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dz' |g_n(z')|^2 \quad (\text{S.31})$$

V. RELATIVISTIC MASS

Relativistic transverse and longitudinal masses are

$$m_T = \gamma m = \frac{p}{v} \quad (\text{S.32})$$

$$m_L = \gamma^3 m = \frac{F}{a} = \frac{\partial p}{\partial v} \quad (\text{S.33})$$

VI. CLASSICAL EQUIVALENCE

The Schrödinger formulation of electromagnetic interaction is relativistically valid when classical momentum and energy are used as

$$\hbar k_c = p_c = m v_0 = \frac{p_0}{\gamma_0} \quad (\text{S.34})$$

$$\hbar \omega_c = T_c = \frac{1}{2} m v_0^2 = \frac{(\gamma_0^2 - 1) m c^2}{2 \gamma_0^2} = \frac{\gamma_0 + 1}{2 \gamma_0^2} T_0 \quad (\text{S.35})$$

or when the momentum with the relativistic (transverse) mass, $m_T = \gamma_0 m$, and corresponding energy are used as

$$\hbar k_c = p_c = m_T v_0 = \gamma_0 m v_0 = p_0 \quad (\text{S.36})$$

$$\hbar \omega_c = T_c = \frac{1}{2} m_T v_0^2 = \frac{(\gamma_0^2 - 1) \gamma_0 m c^2}{2 \gamma_0^2} = \frac{\gamma_0 + 1}{2 \gamma_0} T_0 \quad (\text{S.37})$$

In both cases, eqn. (4) in the *main text* is identical to eqn. (24), and eqn. (4) does not require a relativistic correction, as long as the actual velocity, v_0 , is used. Correct usage of parameters in various formulations are summarized in Table S.1.

[1] S. T. Park, M. Lin, and A. H. Zewail, New J. Phys. **12**, 123028 (2010).

TABLE S.1: Comparison of formulations

	m	v_i	$k_i (p_i/\hbar)$	$\omega_i (E_i/\hbar)$	Δk	$\Delta\omega$
Experiment ^a	m_e	$v_0 = 0.695c$	$k_0 = 0.967m_e c/\hbar$	$\omega_0 = 1.391m_e c^2/\hbar$	$\frac{\omega_p}{v_0}$	ω_p
Dirac formalism	m_e	v_0	k_0	ω_0	$\frac{\omega_p}{v_0}$	ω_p
Schrödinger formalism	m_e	v_0	$k_c = 0.695m_e c/\hbar$ ^b	$\omega_c = 0.242m_e c^2/\hbar$ ^c	$\frac{\omega_p}{v_0}$	ω_p
Effective mass picture	$m_T = 1.391m_e$ ^d	v_0	k_0	$\omega_T = 0.336m_e c^2/\hbar$ ^e	$\frac{\omega_p}{v_0}$	ω_p

^aFor the experiment, $\gamma_0 = 1 + \frac{T_0}{m_e c^2}$ is evaluated, and one obtains $v_0 = c\frac{\sqrt{\gamma_0^2-1}}{\gamma_0}$, $p_0 = \hbar k_0 = m_e c\sqrt{\gamma_0^2-1}$, and $E_0 = \hbar\omega_0 = \gamma_0 m_e c^2$.

$$^b k_c = \frac{mv_0}{\hbar}$$

$$^c \omega_c = \frac{m_e v_0^2}{2\hbar}$$

$$^d m_T = \gamma_0 m_e$$

$$^e \omega_T = \frac{\gamma_0 m_e v_0^2}{2\hbar}$$